



Neighborhood Art



Andrew Carson

Kinetic Sculpture, 2010

Metal, glass, and stone

Location:

Mitchell Park East
10th and Wilson streets

Artist Website:

www.WindSculpture.com

Description: *Kinetic Sculpture* is hand-fabricated artwork located within a traffic calming circle. Carson starts each design as a rough sketch on paper. From there, he works methodically: sizing the parts, figuring the mechanics, perfecting the rotations, and developing the prototypes. When the design is finished, he prints the final drawings at full scale. Then he engineers and makes the parts with a combination of industrial processes and hand working. This includes the glasswork, pillars, metal elements, glass cups, hubs and transitions. Carson prefers hand working rather than using “found” parts in his work.

Artist biography: As a child growing up in Boulder, Colo., Carson was fascinated by the Chinook winds that blew in excess of 100 miles per hour, and he hand-built electronic test equipment to measure the curious blasts of weather. Later, as a teenager, he studied the experimental turbines of the Rockwell wind energy test site near his home. He constructed whirligigs inspired by these functional windmills, kindling his interest in kinetic sculpture. Carson’s work at a bicycle shop during the same period allowed him to explore the combination of mechanics and movement. Carson graduated from the University of Washington with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in photography where he revisited the whirligigs of his youth, refining his work with studies in glass and sculpture. Since then, he has invented and reinvented his original kinetic sculptures with a series of eclectic and captivating innovations.

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